

NHPUC JUN16'08 PM 2:33

nationalgrid

Alexandra E. Blackmore
Counsel

June 16, 2008

VIA HAND DELIVERY & ELECTRONIC MAIL

Ms. Debra A. Howland
Executive Director and Secretary
New Hampshire Public Utilities Commission
21 South Fruit Street, Suite 10
Concord, NH 03301-2429



Re: DE 08-072; Direct Testimony of National Grid

Dear Ms. Howland:

On behalf of Granite State Electric Company d/b/a National Grid ("National Grid" or "Company"), I am submitting the joint direct testimony of Dr. Catherine T. McDonough and Peter F. Altenburger in support of the Company's Fiscal Year 2008 Annual Reliability Enhancement and Vegetation Management Plan Results and Reconciliation Filing dated May 15, 2008 ("May 15th Reconciliation Filing") in the above-captioned docket. Also enclosed is the direct testimony of Michael D. Laflamme. The joint testimony of Dr. McDonough and Mr. Altenburger is intended to provide additional background information about the Company's Reliability Enhancement Program ("REP") and Vegetation Management Program ("VMP") which were approved by the Commission pursuant to Order No. 24,777 as part of the comprehensive merger settlement agreement in Docket No. DG 06-107 (July 12, 2007), as well as to provide support for the Company's May 15th Reconciliation Filing. Mr. Laflamme's testimony also supports the May 15th Reconciliation Filing and provides information regarding the calculation of the REP capital investment allowance the Company is requesting approval to include in rates for usage on and after July 1, 2008.

The Company did not initially file pre-filed testimony at the time of its May 15th Reconciliation Filing because that filing was more in the nature of a report. However, the Company and Staff subsequently agreed that it would be beneficial to submit pre-filed testimony in advance of the hearing scheduled for June 19, 2008.

Thank you for your time and attention to this matter. If you have any questions, please feel free to contact me at 781-907-1849.

Very truly yours,

Alexandra E. Blackmore

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cc: Suzanne Amidon, Esq.
Meredith A. Hatfield, Esq.
Service List (via electronic mail)